

Minutes of the 2016 Deliberative Session for the Town of New Boston

Moderator Nyquist called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. to take up the work of the 2016 New Boston Budget and Warrant. Moderator Nyquist informed the voters that they have the power to determine the language of the Official Ballot through the process of amendments. He informed the voters that he would accept amendments to any Article as long as they are germane and make sense to the Article being discussed.

Moderator Nyquist informed the voters that he is honored to note that this is his twenty fourth year as moderator for the Town of New Boston.

Moderator Nyquist recognized Rev. Woody Woodland to give the invocation before the meeting began.

Moderator Nyquist then recognized the following people:
Cathy Strausbaugh, Deputy Town Clerk, Peter Flynn Town Administrator, Joseph Constance, Selectman, Christine Quirk, Selectwoman, Dwight Lovejoy, Selectman and Chair, Dottie Marden and David Mudrick, Supervisors of the Checklist, Arlene Dodge and Jay Marden, Ballot Clerks, Gerry Cornish, Transfer Station Director, Mike Sidoni, Recreation Director, Dick Perusse, Highway Department Director, Jim Brace, Chief of Police, Dan MacDonald, Fire Chief, Bill Gould, Treasurer, David Woodbury, State Representative and Brandy and Jack Mitroff, editors of the New Boston Bulletin.

Moderator Nyquist informed the voters he would apply Roberts Rules of Order. If need be he would refer to a book entitled Handbook of Parliamentary Law. Any person who wishes to speak must wait for recognition by the Moderator. They must identify themselves with their name and address. No one may interrupt. A motion can be made with a second to that motion to open it up for discussion. Discussion will follow on the motion. If anyone wishes to vote on an issue by secret ballot they will need the signatures of five voters. If there is a secret

ballot the meeting will be suspended until the voters have voted on the Article.

Any voter may call to restrict reconsideration of any Article at any time. If anyone wishes to move an Article so that it is out of numerical sequence they may do so with a motion, a second and a vote. Each motion will be put to a vote. We can have a division vote. At that time the motion will be asked again but the V cards will be used to determine the outcome.

Someone may move the question to end debate. At that time there is a vote taken and debate may then cease on the Article.

The budget is not voted on as a line item budget. You may discuss a particular line item however the vote to move the money to the ballot is determined by the bottom line which may be moved up or down.

All Articles must go onto the Official Ballot in whatever format is determined by this meeting.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an **operating budget** not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **four million, six hundred ninety seven thousand, five hundred twenty three dollars (\$4,697,523)**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **four million, five hundred one thousand, eight hundred sixty four dollars (\$4,501,864)** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of New Boston or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This operating budget article doesn't contain appropriations contained in any other articles.

Moderator Nyquist recognized Dwight Lovejoy who moved that Article 15 be placed the Official Ballot as written. Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked Dwight Lovejoy to present an overview of the budget. Mr. Lovejoy thanked all for attending. He informed the voters that the Planning Board Department had been reorganized. There is now Professional Planner hired to work 24 hours a month. There is a new Planning Coordinator and an Assistant to the Coordinator. He indicated that the Town Budget was broken down into three areas. Operating, Capital Reserve and Warrant Articles. CIP, Capital Improvements is for issues that would cost the town \$20,000 or more and were put on a six year schedule. New Boston does not owe any money on a 30 day billing cycle.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any further discussion.

Discussion:

- David Hulick, 7 Valleyview Road

I notice that there are 2 pages missing from our handout that include the Road Crew and the Fire Department.

- Peter Flynn, Town Administrator, yes there are two pages that were inadvertently missing from the packet.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any further discussion on Article 15. There being none he called for a Vote.

The Ayes have it and Article 15 is moved to the Official Ballot as written

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **one hundred ten thousand dollars (\$110,000)**, to be placed in the existing **Fire Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund.**

Moderator Nyquist recognized Joseph Constance who moved that Article 16 be placed on the Official Ballot as written. Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it and Article 16 will be placed on the Official Ballot as written.

Moderator Nyquist recognized Bill Gould, 35 Town Farm Road who moved to restrict reconsideration of Articles 15 – 16. Seconded by Rodney Towne.

Moderator Nyquist called for a vote. The Ayes have it and reconsideration is restricted.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **nineteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$19,500)** for the purpose of planning, designing, and engineering to achieve a solid estimate for construction of a new fire station to be located on Route 13 at Map 8 Lot 110-2.

Moderator Nyquist recognized Joseph Constance who moved that Article 17 be placed on the Official Ballot as written. Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist recognized Joseph Constance to speak to the motion. Mr. Constance explained that the Fire Wards have asked for funding to supply the professional services of engineering for site work along with the design and architect's fees for the complete detailed planning of the new fire station which will most likely come before the voters in 2017. In order to have a precise and complete presentation and plan it is necessary to have the above services completed a year in advance.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any discussion.

Discussion:

- Ed DiPietro, 469 Clark Hill Road, proposed an amendment to the Article that read: "To see if the town will vote to raise and

appropriate **nineteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$19,500)** for the purpose of performing an engineering analysis to determine the financial benefits of updating the current fire station versus building a new station on a new location.” Moderator Nyquist asked if there was a second to the motion, Brandy Mitroff seconded.

- Dan MacDonald, 101 Tucker Mill Road, has proposed a similar motion. “To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **nineteen thousand five hundred dollars, (\$19,500)** for the purpose of producing three separate professionally prepared cost estimates for three fire station options. These options are 1: razing and rebuilding on the current site, 2: renovating the current station and 3: construction of a new fire station to be located on Route 13 at Map 8 Lot 110-2.
- The original article was not worded properly. This is to determine all three options rather than just one.
- Jack Mitroff – 74 Thornton Road – There are three options here and I wonder if the \$19,500 is enough.
- Dan MacDonald – We have already had people working for us Pro-Bono for New Boston and that is why the cost is so low.
- Joe Constance – Roger Dignard has offered to engineer this proposal.
- Randy Parker – 14 Mill Street. We should be discussing the first amendment and voting up or down.
- Moderator Nyquist. Yes we should.
- Jay Marden – Gregg Mill Road- The town spent \$200,000 to purchase land on Rt 13. It was determined that the present site is not useful. I propose to turn both motions down.
- Ed DiPietro – I was not of the opinion that the purchased land was solely for the Fire Department.
- Dan MacDonald – When we purchased that land it was not for the Fire Department. Fire Wards approached the Selectmen to consider that property.
- Willard Dodge – 116 Tucker Mill Road – Speaking about the amendment of Dan Macdonald. It covers a lot of concerns that we

look at old property as well as new property. We owe it to the taxpayer to cover all of our bases.

- Jay Marden – We voted the \$200,00 with the inference that it was for fire and police.
- Dan MacDonald - \$19,500 whatever we do one site or 3 sites. The money is very cost effective.
- Kaleb Jacob 22 Fraser Drive - What would happen to the old fire station if a new one is built?
- Joe Constance – This has not been determined. We have a cost of \$18,000 to raze the building and it is gone. Other considerations are Recreation Department, Police Department. No decisions at this time.
- Kaleb Jacob – would you consider selling it to an individual for a business? What is wrong with the present station?
- Dan MacDonald – It was built in 1981. There is no way to store blood pathogens, there are dangers to the environment, the station does not have an exhaust removal system. There is one bathroom and no showers for the firemen after a fire. The gear has no way of be washed, there is no decontamination area, when we train, people are standing and some are standing in the kitchen. There is no cold or hot area, everyone is in an wide open space. We are limited to our storage and access area. There are concerns for health and safety for our firefighters.
- Jay Marden – I will vote that the existing site is inadequate.

Moderator Nyquist asked for a vote on the first amendment of Ed DiPietro. Vote: Nays have it and the motion is defeated.

- Dan MacDonald moved to vote on Article 17 second amendment. Seconded by Sharon Harwick
- Dan Rothman – Town Farm Road I am confused about the property. Did we acquire property behind the Fire Station?
- Joseph Constance – yes it was purchased in August.
- Bill Morrissey 22 Mill Street – It has not been determined if that land is useable.

- Jay Marden – I am voting against it. The town looked at property on River road for \$600,000 – 800,000. Voters turned the article down. The Town has looked at Tingleys gravel pit.
- Lee Nyquist – It was a ballot question
- Scott Hunter – When we vote are we also voting on the explanation?
- Moderator Nyquist called for a vote on Dan MacDonald’s amendment. The vote The ayes have it and Warrant Article 17 as amended will appear on the Official Ballot.

Article 18 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to **one hundred ninety six thousand three hundred dollars (\$196,300)** for the purpose of replacing the radio building and antenna tower at the cul de sac on Ridgeview Drive that serves the Town’s emergency services with **ninety eight thousand one hundred fifty dollars (\$98,150)** from a State of NH EMPG grant and **ninety eight thousand one hundred fifty dollars (\$98,150)** to come from unassigned fund balance. In addition, fire proofing the area and installing a security fence around the building and tower would be part of the plan. This project is a collaborative effort by the Police, Fire and Highway Departments who will benefit from this upgrade. This is contingent on receiving the NH EMPG Grant and is a non-lapsing appropriation and will not lapse until the project is complete or until December 31, 2021.

Joseph Constance moved to accept the article as written, Dwight Lovejoy seconded. Moderator Nyquist asked Mr. Constance to speak to the article. Mr. Constance deferred to Chief MacDonald.

- This is a communication building which is supposed to cover about 90% of our town. The building is very small, probably not larger than 3 folding chairs. The pole was installed back in 1981 and it is only a 40 foot pole so the trees and leaves have grown up around it which blocks our communication signal. We would like to replace that pole a steel antenna and we would like to replace/rebuild that building. We have removed some trees in the immediate area to

keep it as safe as possible and to make sure that we get the coverage needed.

- Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any further discussion.
- Ed DiPeietro This is necessary. If we don't get the grant the project falls on its face. Maybe someone should get it onto a CIP.
- Mark Suennen, 325 Twin Bridge Road, what is the unassigned fund?
- It is money that is accumulated from surplus. We have \$1.1 million that is not designated. Sometimes it is put back to reduce taxes. This is money that was raised previously and not been used to offset taxes.
- Peter Flynn – The DRA suggests that we keep about 1.1 – 2 million in the account for emergencies.
- Jerry Cornett – If we do not get the grant then do we not do this?
- Joseph Constance – No we do not do it.
- Dan MacDonald – We should take advantage of the grant. We may have coverage for one more year.
- James Brace, 83 Styles Road, We have spent considerable time on this. We need to try to secure the grant to minimize taxes. Emergency radio communication is at this site. We have tried for a long to get secure the grant and we feel confident that this will happen. This will set us up to put money aside in the future as a long term solution.
- Brandy Mitroff, 74 Thornton Road. Chair of the CIP Committee. Because this is a critical need we will not put this on a CIP because it has to go out six years. It can be brought back next year and we can use the full amount from town surplus.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it and Article 18 will appear on the Official Ballot as written.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **eighty five thousand dollars (\$85,000)** to be placed in the existing **Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund.**

Dwight Lovejoy moved to accept Article 19 as written. Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it and Article 19 will be placed on the Official Ballot.

Scott Hunter 116 Riverdale Road– Motioned that we restrict reconsideration. Dan MacDonald seconded the motion. The Ayes have it and reconsideration is restricted.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000)** to be added to the **Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund** to be used for the 2021 complete town wide revaluation.

Christine Quirk moved to accept Article 20 as written. Dwight Lovejoy seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it and Article 20 will be placed on the Official Ballot.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000)** for the purpose of completing the required revaluation update due in 2016 as required by law (every five years) and furthermore, to authorize the withdrawal of **eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000)** from the Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.

Selectperson Quirk moved to accept Article 21 as written. Selectman Constance seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any discussion.

Dave Beauley, 54 Parker Road, The \$80,000, is it different than the \$80,000 at the top of the article?

It is one in the same.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any further discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it and Article 21 will be placed on the Official Ballot.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** to be placed in the existing **Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.**

Dwight Lovejoy moved to accept Article 22 as written. Joseph Constance seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it and Article 22 will be placed on the Official Ballot.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eighty five thousand dollars (\$85,000)** for the purpose of improvements **on Dougherty Lane.** This is a non-lapsing appropriation and will not lapse until the project is complete or until December 31, 2021, whichever comes first.

Dwight Lovejoy moved to accept Article 23 as written. Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any discussion.

Ed DiPietro – What is a non- lapsing appropriation?

Joseph Constance – It means we do not have to keep voting on it.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any further discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The vote the Ayes have it and Article 23 will be placed on the Official Ballot.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **forty thousand dollars (\$40,000)** to be added to the existing **Town Bridge Repair/Replacement Capital Reserve Fund**.

Dwight Lovejoy moved to accept Article 24 as written. Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it and Article 24 will be moved to the Official Ballot.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **two thousand four hundred fifty eight dollars (\$2,458.00)** to be added to the expendable trust fund established in 2014 for the purpose of offsetting the cost of police ‘detail’ coverage incurred by New Boston non-profits when they sponsor public events in New Boston that require security.

Joseph Constance moved to accept Article 25 as written. Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it and Article 25 will be placed on the Official Ballot.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Riverdale Road Capital Reserve Fund with said funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, to be transferred to the Town’s general fund

Joseph Constance moved to accept Article 26 as written. Dwight Lovejoy seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it and Article 26 is moved to the Official Ballot.

Article 27. To act on any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Jay Marden – Gregg Mill Road – Wanted to note that there were less than 50 people in attendance which is less than 1% of the voters. Clearly this forum is not working and suggested that we return to Town Meeting.

Dave Beasley – I make a motion to restrict reconsideration for articles 19-26

Moderator Nyquist called for a vote. The Ayes have it and reconsideration is restricted.

Jay Marden made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Scott Hunter seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Cathleen Strausbaugh
Deputy Clerk